Tree Ecosystem Survey Map

Name ________________ **Name** ________________ **Date** ________________ **Time** ________________	**Tree Species** ________________ **Tree Height (m)** ______________ **Tree Width (m)** ______________

Objective

Survey a local tree or shrub and record details about the flora and fauna that inhabit it.

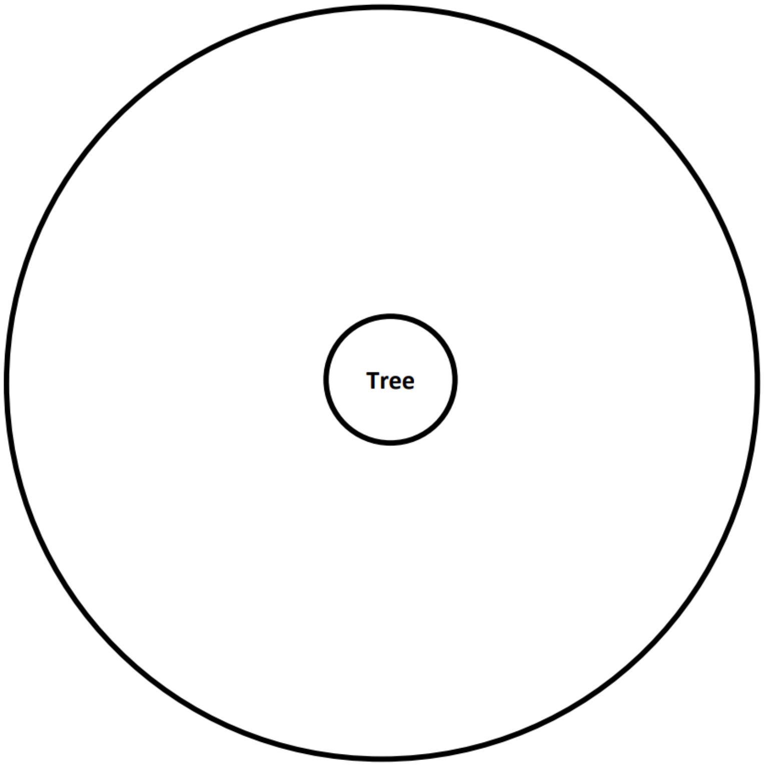
Materials

String (20 m)

Meter stick

Procedure

1) Choose a tree or bush to examine.
2) Encircle your tree or bush with the string by placing the string on the ground to create a perimeter.
3) Carefully examine the circular survey area around your tree (or bush).
4) Record each different type of organism within the boundary (or on the tree itself).
5) Use a different number for each item and then list the number in the appropriate Niche row. A niche is the role or job of an organism within an ecosystem.
    - For example, if a blade of grass is observed first, mark its location within the survey area (1) and mark it as a producer (1). This indicates where it was found on a certain day and how it fits within this ecosystem.
6) Record the number of different types of organisms within the boundary (or on the tree itself) on the data table. For example, if 5 beetles are first observed in a small area, mark 1 in the circular area on the handout at the approximate location of that organism type (species). Then, make a tally or tick mark in the data table to communicate whether the beetle is a producer (e.g. plant), consumer (e.g. animal) or decomposer (e.g. mushroom).
7) When a second organism has been found, label this location on the circular map with a 2 and make a tally or tick mark in the data table as done before.
8) Continue this process for all other organisms found.
9) Use the bottom of the handout to make general remarks about the abiotic and biotic features.



Niche	Organism Number
Producer (Plants)	
Consumer (Animals)	
Decomposers	

Observations	Description of Event(s)